

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at pg. 4, line 26 as follows

--In accordance with one aspect of the invention, this small or thin profile prosthesis 10

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can be created by placing more than one ovoid resilient prosthetic discs 41, 42 within a cylindrical housing 20 of metal, ceramic or polymeric material (the housing 20 having been separated into two halves 22, 24 longitudinally). This small device 10 can be implanted in the spine through a small surgical opening. One device 20 containing two or more discs 41, 42 may be used, or by placing two such devices 20 in parallel, each containing two or more ovoid discs in series, a full range of motion of the functional spinal unit (FSU) can be achieved. If the discoid material possesses resilient, viscoelastic properties, with the housing being split or otherwise open on its sides with the internally placed ovoid discs maintaining the separation of the upper and lower housing members, a cushioning effect may also be realized. If desired, a flexible sheath or seal 50 (Fig. 3) can be attached to the housing halves, as by a retaining wire or band, as suggested in U.S. Patent 5,674,296.--